

Starting and Maintaining an Aquatic Bodywork Practice

Students, practitioners and instructors of Watsu, Healing Dance, Waterdance and related forms such as (Watsu on land) and TantsuYoga have their transcripts stored, and their authorizations registered, in the Aquatic Bodywork Registry.

Anyone wishing to enter this field should understand the difference between authorization and licensure. Authorization that is recorded on the Registry may not be sufficient for licensing agencies that only issue certificates obtained at a government approved school. Since most of our students are already licensed in the body and can add Watsu as a modality to their existing practice, instructors are authorized to teach at clinics and spas and wherever else Watsu is needed. Wherever they are taught, instructors add their transcript on the Registry.

If you do not already have a license to touch. If you wish to practice Watsu in an area where licensure is required, check what the local requirements are. If they include certification from a state approved school, attend a school where Watsu is taught that will meet those requirements, or plan to obtain that licensure through the modality at a local school before, during or after your Watsu studies. (Be aware that courses taken at an approved school may fulfill a requirement for a pre-requisite, but probably can not be transferred for credit).

If you already have a license to touch. If you are already employed in a spa, clinic or other facility authorized to practice as a Provider under a contract to complete the full requirements to be a practitioner for a year. Otherwise you can complete the full requirements to be listed as a practitioner under the program that takes into account the applicability of your previous education.

Worldwide Requirements to be placed on the Registry as a Watsu® Practitioner

Note: the rate of progress through any of our programs is based on the successful completion of each step. Students benefit by auditing a course (repeating it at a usually reduced cost), or by attending a supervised additional practice sessions, before continuing on to the next step. Instructors will note when these audits and supervisions can help fulfill the electives required, they do not usually lengthen a student's program.

Most Worldwide instructors teach through Training Institutes that are authorized to adapt the Worldwide requirements to the conditions and needs in their region. The following is the basic requirements that each Training Institute must complement with additional classes appropriate for their population. The Watsu classes below that are attended anywhere in the world can fulfill the requirements for them in any training institute.

A	<p>Watsu 1 and 2 (100 hours)</p> <p>Log 20 practice sessions</p> <p>in either a Supervision, Integration or audit of Watsu 2, demonstrate competency</p>
B	<p>Watsu 3 (50 hours)</p> <p>Have attended, including the above courses and additional audits at least 200 hours of WABA Aquatic Bodywork courses.</p> <p>Current CPR certification</p> <p>Log 10 sessions received from a professional (Before, during or after the above).</p>
C	<p>100 hours of Shiatsu and/or Tantsu³</p> <p>100 hours of Anatomy/Physiology³</p> <p>Enough additional hours of WABA Aquatic Bodywork courses to total 500 hours of classes and supervisions to 500 (520 In Europe⁴).</p>
Licensed Professional² Practitioner	<p>Those with a current license to touch² who have attended at least 200 hours of WABA Aquatic Bodywork courses or its equivalent may add Watsu as an additional modality to their practice upon completion of A + B above. Those who have not had a shiatsu course</p>

	sufficient knowledge of bodywork may take the shiatsu course as 1 education.
Licensed Professional² Provider	Licensed Professionals ² currently employed at a spa, clinic or spa under the contract described below, provide Watsu sessions to the location upon completion of A above.
Provider Contract	Providers agrees to complete their program to become a Watsu Provider in three years. Training Institutes overseeing the Provider programs must have requirements appropriate to their region.
Registration	On completion of the appropriate program students may be registered as a Provider or a Watsu Practitioner. Providers Pay a \$75 fee to be authorized as a provider for 3 years. If they complete their program within three years, there is no additional fee to be authorized as a practitioner. Normally there is no fee for each authorization in an additional modality. In the US and Canada, this adds two years to being listed to the public on the registry, after which an annual renewal fee of \$25. Being listed to the public everywhere depends on if you had a class added to the Registry during the previous three years.
Public Listing	Currently registered practitioners may choose to list themselves to the WABA site. Normally a provider can not list themselves to the public until they become a Watsu Practitioner. In countries where public listing is available providers may request to be listed and that listing will be on an individual basis.
¹ Demonstrate Competency. After Watsu 2 and 20 logged sessions, before attending Watsu 3, get an authorized assistant or instructor during a Supervision, Integration or audit of Watsu 2. Mastery of principles of Watsu is required for placement as provider or practitioner.	
² Licensed Professionals eligible for this program includes Nationally Certified Massage Therapist, Licensed Physical Therapist or Physical Therapy Assistant, Licensed Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapist Assistant, Registered Nurse (BSN/MSN), License to practice Medicine or Dentistry (MD/DO), State Licensed/Certified Massage Therapist (500+ Hours), ATRI Certified Aquatic Therapist (2003) over 500 hours of certified training. Those with an extensive bodywork practice in an area where the requirements were less than 500 hours may reduce the 500 hundred hour minimum by 50 hours for lifetime bodywork practice. Those with similar qualifications will be considered on a case by case basis.	
³ Transfer Credits Requirements may be fulfilled by transferring credits from an equivalent course. Any number of courses up to the required total hours may be transferred by a Training Institute. Contact a Training Institute for information about what can be transferred and the fee.	